

Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 294505

NODIS
FOR ARMSTRONG, REINHARDT AND SCRANTON ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT MASERU 01472 SENT ACTION SECSTATE 02 DEC 76

QUOTE S E C R E T MASERU 1472

NODIS

DEPT PASS LONDON AND GENEVA (REINHARDT)

FROM SCHAUFLE

1. DR. ELLIOT GABALLAH, VP OF ANC, WHO CAME HERE FROM GENEVA MET WITH ME AT HIS REQUEST. GABALLAH INTENDS RETURN GENEVA MONDAY OR TUESDAY VIA SALISBURY.

2. GABALLAH SAID THAT BISHOP MUZOREWA HAD INSTRUCTED HIM SPECIFICALLY TO SPEAK TO ME SEEKING A MORE ACTIVE U.S. ROLE IN PRESENT SITUATION. HE HAD NO SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS BY ANC WOULD WELCOME ANY IDEAS FROM USG AND IN FUTURE DISCUSSIONS WOULD PROBABLY HAVE SOME OF ITS OWN. HE UNDERScoreD URGENCY OF SITUATION.

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3. I TRIED TO DRAW GABALLAH OUT ON WHAT MUZOREWA HAD IN MIND AND, ALTHOUGH I COULD GET NO DETAILS - IF INDEED GABALLAH HAS ANY - THE BASIC DRIFT BECAME CLEAR.

4. GABALLAH POINTED OUT THAT BLACK RHODESIANS, APART FROM THEIR OWN HERITAGE, HAVE EXPERIENCED ONLY BRITISH RULE AND PRINCIPLES. NOW, AS A RESULT OF NATIONALIST DIVISIONS AN IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE IS DEVELOPING. MUGABE HAS MADE CLEAR IN HIS STATEMENTS ABOUT THE FUTURE STRUCTURE OF RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT AND ECONOMY THAT HE SUPPORTS A MARXIST SOLUTION. IF THESE PEOPLE PREVAIL, AN INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE WILL BECOME ANOTHER MOZAMBIQUE OR ANGOLA. GABALLAH SAID THAT IF THE EAST TAKES OVER HE WOULD BE THE FIRST REFUGEE.

5. LOGICAL INFERENCE IS THAT MUZOREWA, WHO EARLIER ACCUSED US OF SUPPORTING NKOMO, IS NOW SEEKING SUCH SUPPORT HIMSELF. I HAVE LITTLE DOUBT THAT IT WILL BE RAISED AGAIN IN GENEVA OR ELSEWHERE, PARTICULARLY IF PRESENT APPARENT PATRIOTIC FRONT - FRONTLINE STRATEGY IMMOBILIZES CONFERENCE OR GAINS GROUND.

6. OTHER POINTS WHICH EMERGED FROM CONVERSATION:

A. MUGABE OFFERED MARRIAGE TO ANC DESCRIBING FRONT AS TEMPORARY EXPEDIENT FOR GENEVA WITH AIMS OF (1) PREVENTING NKOMO FROM SAYING "YES" IF MUGABE WANTED TO SAY "NO"; (2) BRINGING SOME ZAPU MILITARY INTO MOZAMBIQUE WHERE THEY COULD BE CONTROLLED BY FORCES LOYAL TO MUGABE. GABALLAH BELIEVES MUGABE OFFER TO ANCO WAS ALSO EXPEDIENT TO USE DOMESTIC BASE WHICH ANC POSSESSES IN RHODESIA ANC REJECTED MUGABE APPROACH.

B. GABALLAH SAID THAT THERE ARE NOW ARMED GROUPS IN TANZANIA REPRESENTING MUGABE, SITHOLE, MUZOREWA AND NKOMO GROUPS.

C. IT WOULD BE A GRAVE ERROR TO IGNORE SMITH. HIS GOVERNMENT MUST BE PART OF SETTLEMENT. HE JOKINGLY CALLED SMITH GROUP ANOTHER "LIBERATION" DELEGATION.

D. HE PREDICTED THAT IF CONFERENCE HAS NOT COMPLETED ITS WORK BY DEC. 20 AND IS NOT ADJOURNED TO RECONVENE LATER, MUGABE GROUP WILL PACK UP AND WALK OUT. MUZOREWA GROUP WOULD STAY AND HE
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THOUGHT NKOMO'S WOULD TOO.

E. HE DID NOT MIND OBSERVERS ADVISING NATIONALIST DELEGATIONS BUT THEY WERE TOO DEEPLY INVOLVED IN NEGOTIATIONS.

F. NIGERIANS ARE NOT HELPFUL. THEY BELIEVE IN SOLUTION BY ARMED STRUGGLE BUT WILL NOT INTERFERE IF ALL NATIONALIST GROUPS ARE DETERMINED TO PURSUE NEGOTIATIONS.

G. GABALLAH MAINTAINS MUGABE GROUP WANTS CONFERENCE TO FAIL
AND SUSPECTS ZIPA DELEGATION GOING TO GENEVA HAS SOME OBJECTIVE.

H. GABALLAH SAID ANC AND KNOMO GROUP RECEIVED MANY MESSAGES
FROM SUPPORTERS INSIDE RHODESIA COMPLAINING OF PROTRACTED
NEGOTIATIONS OVER INDEPENDENCE DATE. THESE MESSAGES EMPHASIZED
TWO-YEAR DEADLINE WAS ACCEPTABLE. STOKES

UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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NNN

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